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PRESS RELEASE

U.S. Embassy Visa Interview Waiver Program

DHAKA, April 02-- The U.S. Embassy's Consular Section is pleased to announce an Interview Waiver Program for qualified Bangladeshi nonimmigrant visa applicants. This program permits consular officers to waive interviews for certain qualified nonimmigrant visa applicants who are renewing their nonimmigrant visas. This program is not for first-time applicants. It is only for certain applicants renewing their visas.

In general, qualified applicants will be those who are renewing a visa, are citizens or residents of Bangladesh and are currently residing in Bangladesh, and are applying for the same type of visa as previously issued. Their previous visa will have to have been issued on or after January 1, 2008. Qualified applicants will have had no visa refusals in any category since their previous visa. Applicants' previous visas should not have been revoked, lost, or stolen. Nor should the applicant have incurred any violations of U.S. immigration laws and/or regulations. In addition, the applicant's name, date and place of birth, and nationality should not have changed since the previous visa was issued.

Depending on the type of visa being applied for, other requirements may be enforced. The Embassy encourages anyone interested in the program to visit the Embassy's information page at http://dhaka.usembassy.gov/interview_waiver_program.html. For any concerns not addressed by this information, applicants should send an email to DhakaNIV@state.gov.

The Embassy stresses that eligibility for the interview waiver does not guarantee a visa issuance nor does it guarantee that the interview will be waived.

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